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ABSTRACT

The document is a copy of Public Law 93-408 enacted by the 93rd Congress, September 3, 1974 to amend the Youth Conservation Corps Act of 1970 in order to expand and make permanent the Youth Conservation Corps. The amended provisions deal with policy and purposes of the Corps, and qualifications, equal opportunity, employment, and term of employment of the participants. The duties and functions of the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture in carrying out the act are outlined. They involve regulations, availability of Corps facilities not in use to educational institutions, cost responsibility, use of unoccupied Federal facilities and surplus equipment, and contract authority. Provisions concerning the grant program for State projects include application requirements and approval and grant limitation, payments and appropriation percentage. Also covered by the amendment are secretarial reports and authorization of appropriations. (MS)

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Public Law 93-408
93rd Congress, S. 1871
September 3, 1974

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An Act

To amend the Youth Conservation Corps Act of 1972 (Public Law 92-597, 86 Stat. 1319) to expand and make permanent the Youth Conservation Corps, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Act of August 13, 1970 (84 Stat. 794) is amended to read as follows:

Youth Conservation Corps Act of 1970, amendment.
86 Stat. 1319.
42 USC prec. 2711 note.
16 USC 1701.

"POLICY AND PURPOSE

"SECTION 1. The Congress finds that the Youth Conservation Corps has demonstrated a high degree of success as a pilot program wherein American youth, representing all segments of society, have benefited by gainful employment in the healthful outdoor atmosphere of the national park system, the national forest system, other public land and water areas of the United States and by their employment have developed, enhanced, and maintained the natural resources of the United States, and whereas in so doing the youth have gained an understanding and appreciation of the Nation's environment and heritage equal to one full academic year of study, it is accordingly the purpose of this Act to expand and make permanent the Youth Conservation Corps and thereby further the development and maintenance of the natural resources by America's youth, and in so doing to prepare them for the ultimate responsibility of maintaining and managing these resources for the American people.

"YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS

"SEC. 2. (a) To carry out the purposes of this Act, there is established in the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture a Youth Conservation Corps (hereinafter referred to as the 'Corps'). The Corps shall consist of young men and women who are permanent residents of the United States, its territories, possessions, trust territories, or Commonwealth of Puerto Rico who have attained age fifteen but have not attained age nineteen, and whom the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture may employ without regard to the civil service or classification laws, rules, or regulations, for the purpose of developing, preserving, or maintaining the lands and waters of the United States.

16 USC 1702.
Participants.

"(b) The Corps shall be open to youth from all parts of the country of both sexes and youth of all social, economic, and racial classifications with all Corps members receiving compensation consistent with work accomplished, and with no person being employed as a member of the Corps for a term in excess of ninety days during any single year.

Equal opportunity and employment, term.

88 STAT. 1066
88 STAT. 1067

"SECRETARIAL DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS

"SEC. 3. (a) In carrying out this Act, the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture shall—

16 USC 1703.

"(1) determine the areas under their administrative jurisdictions which are appropriate for carrying out the programs using employees of the Corps;

"(2) determine with other Federal agencies the areas under the administrative jurisdiction of these agencies which are appropriate for carrying out programs using members of the Corps, and determine and select appropriate work and education programs and projects for participation by members of the Corps;

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"(3) determine the rates of pay, hours, and other conditions of employment in the Corps, except that all members of the Corps shall not be deemed to be Federal employees other than for the purpose of chapter 171 of title 28, United States Code, and chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code.

62 Stat. 982; 80 Stat. 306. 28 USC 2671. 80 Stat. 531; 82 Stat. 98. 5 USC 8101. Regulations.

"(4) provide for such transportation, lodging, subsistence, and other services and equipment as they may deem necessary or appropriate for the needs of members of the Corps in their duties;

"(5) promulgate regulation to insure the safety, health, and welfare of the Corps members; and

Facilities, availability to educational institutions.

"(6) provide to the extent possible, that permanent or semi-permanent facilities used as Corps camps be made available to local schools, school districts, State junior colleges and universities, and other education institutions for use as environmental/ecological education camps during periods of nonuse by the Corps program.

Cost responsibility.

Costs for operations maintenance, and staffing of Corps camp facilities during periods of use by non-Corps programs as well as any liability for personal injury or property damage stemming from such use shall be the responsibility of the entity or organization using the facility and shall not be a responsibility of the Secretaries or the Corps.

Unoccupied Federal facilities and surplus equipment, use.

"(b) Existing but unoccupied Federal facilities and surplus or unused equipment (or both), of all types including military facilities and equipment, shall be utilized for the purposes of the Corps, where appropriate and with the approval of the Federal agency involved. To minimize transportation costs, Corps members shall be employed on conservation projects as near to their places of residence as is feasible.

Contract authority.

"(c) The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture may contract with any public agency or organization or any private nonprofit agency or organization which has been in existence for at least five years for the operation of any Youth Conservation Corps project.

"GRANT PROGRAM FOR STATE PROJECTS

16 USC 1704.

"SEC. 4. (a) The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture shall jointly establish a program under which grants shall be made to States to assist them in meeting the cost of projects for the employment of young men and women to develop, preserve, and maintain non-Federal public lands and waters within the States. For purposes of this section, the term 'States' includes the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, and American Samoa.

"States." 88 STAT. 1067 88 STAT. 1068

Application requirements.

"(b)(1) No grant may be made under this section unless an application therefor has been submitted to, and approved by, the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture. Such application shall be in such form, and submitted in such manner, as the Secretaries shall jointly by regulation prescribe, and shall contain—

"(A) assurances satisfactory to the Secretaries that individuals employed under the project for which the application is submitted shall (i) have attained the age of fifteen but not attained the age of nineteen, (ii) be permanent residents of the United States or its territories, possessions, or the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, (iii) be employed without regard to the personnel laws, rules, and regulations applicable to full-time employees of the applicant, (iv) be employed for a period of not more than ninety days in any calendar year, and (v) be employed without regard to their sex or social, economic, or racial classification; and

"(B) such other information as the Secretaries may jointly by regulation prescribe.

"(2) The Secretaries may approve applications which they determine (A) to meet the requirements of paragraph (1), and (B) are for projects which will further the development, preservation, or maintenance of non-Federal public lands or waters within the jurisdiction of the applicant. Approval.

"(c)(1) The amount of any grant under this section shall be determined jointly by the Secretaries, except that no grant for any project may exceed 80 per centum of the cost (as determined by the Secretaries) of such project. Limitation.

"(2) Payments under grants under this section may be made in advance or by way of reimbursement and at such intervals and on such conditions as the Secretaries find necessary. Payments.

"(d) Thirty per centum of the sums appropriated under section 6 for any fiscal year shall be made available for grants under this section for such fiscal year. Appropriation percentage.

"SECRETARIAL REPORTS

"SEC. 5. The Secretary of the Interior and Secretary of Agriculture shall annually prepare a joint report detailing the activities carried out under this Act and providing recommendations. Each report for a program year shall be submitted concurrently to the President and the Congress not later than April 1 following the close of that program year. Joint report to President and Congress. 16 USC 1705.

"AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

"SEC. 6. There are authorized to be appropriated amounts not to exceed $60,000,000 for each fiscal year, which amounts shall be made available to the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out the purposes of this Act. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds appropriated for any fiscal year to carry out this Act shall remain available for obligation and expenditure until the end of the fiscal year following the fiscal year for which appropriated.". 16 USC 1706.

Approved September 3, 1974.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

HOUSE REPORT No. 93-1223 accompanying H.R. 14897 (Comm. on Education and Labor).
SENATE REPORT No. 93-426 (Comm. on Interior and Insular Affairs).
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:
Vol. 119 (1973): Oct. 8, considered and passed Senate.
Vol. 120 (1974): Aug. 19, considered and passed House, amended, in lieu of H.R. 14897.
Aug. 21, Senate concurred in House amendment.
WEEKLY COMPILATION OF PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS:
Vol. 10, No. 36: Sept. 3, Presidential statement.

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